Minutes

of the

Sixth Annual Convention

of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Japan

(Mission Chamber)

Karuizawa, Japan
September, 1925

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OPENING SESSION, SEPTEMBER 4TH, 1925, 2 P.M.

The opening session of the Mission Chamber of the 6th Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Japan was held in the Junior Building, Karuizawa, Japan, on Friday afternoon at 2 P.M.

The opening devotional service was conducted by the Rev. J. K. Linn.

After this service the meeting was called to order by the President, Rev. A. J. Stirewalt.

ROLL CALL. The members present included all of the voting members of the Japan Mission with the exception of two lady missionaries at present home on furlough. Those present were:

Rev. C. K. Lippard, D.D.
Rev. A. J. Stirewalt,
Rev. L. S. G. Miller, D.D.
Rev. J. P. Nielsen,
Rev. C. E. Norman,
Rev. G. W. Schillinger,
Rev. A. C. Knudten,
Rev. L. G. Gray,

Rev. E. T. Horn,
Rev. C. W. Hepner,
Rev. J. K. Linn,
Rev. S. O. Thorlaksson,
Rev. D. G. M. Bach,
Rev. J. A. Linn,
Miss Maude Powlas,
Miss Anne Powlas,
Miss Reba Hendrickson,
Miss Helen Shirk.

Associate Member: Rev. F. W. Heins.

WELCOME TO NEW AND RETURNED MISSIONARIES. The President on behalf of the Mission officially welcomed the following new members who have recently come to us:

Mrs. Mary Linn,
Rev. & Mrs. G. M. Sowers,
Miss Faith Lippard,
Miss Amy Thoren.

And the following members who have returned since the last Convention.

Rev. & Mrs. S. O. Thorlaksson and family,
Rev. & Mrs. C. E. Norman and family,
Miss Maude Powlas,
Miss Anne Powlas.

The proposed program of the Convention was read by the President and approved.

REPORT OF THE JT. EX. COMMITTEE. The Secretary read the report of the Joint Executive Committee on actions taken ad-interim. The report was received but action on same was deferred till a later session.

Inasmuch as the time for adjournment had come it was voted to extend the time to five o'clock.

CONVENTION COMMITTEES. The President appointed the following Committees to handle the business of the Convention:

Business Committee: Revs. Horn and Miller.

Reference Committee: Revs. Hepner, Thorlaksson, Lippard and Miss Shirk.

New Business, Resolutions and Nominations Committee: Rev. Nielsen, Miss Hendrickson, Revs. Norman and J. K. Linn.

NENKWAI REPORT OF MEMBERS PRESENT. Thru the Business Committee the Japanese Chamber reported that their session had begun with thirteen voting members, two lay delegates, and six associate members.

REPORT OF THE JAPAN LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

Rev. J. P. Nielsen, Dean of the Seminary, gave his report as follows:

During the past year some rather important changes have taken place in connection with our Seminary. What once seemed only a distant dream to many of us has come to pass—our Seminary is out of the old rut and, while the jolt came as a sudden surprise to some of us, the new road rides easier and seems to be that of progress—we are looking forward to greater things in the future.

FACULTY. Our Faculty has been greatly strengthened thru the addition of the two members, Profs. Sato and Asaji, who, after a prolonged period of study and travel abroad, have during the past year taken up their appointed work in the Seminary. The Dean has also returned to his duties, after an absence of two years. We have thus at last realized our aims of some years past and have now a full Faculty, among whose five members the work has been divided so as to leave every member free to specialize in and develop his own department. This should mean far greater efficiency in our Seminary work, and it is our sincere hope and earnest prayer that the result may be a large number of thoroughly trained and spiritually-minded ministers for the Lutheran Church in Japan.

STUDENTS. The year beginning in April, 1924, started with six students, but from the beginning of the second semester Hirosuke Ouchi, who had been out for some time on account of illness, came back to finish his last year's work. His health had improved and he was stronger than he had been for a long time. He graduated from the Seminary in June and was appointed temporarily to Minamata. Two new students were admitted and one was re-admitted to the Seminary in April. Sueaki Uzumi graduated from Kyushu Gakuin in March, tho with rather poor marks for scholarship, and as he failed to pass in some of the subjects at the entrance examination to the Seminary, he was admitted on probation on the grounds of his having shown great earnestness in Christian work and upon his promise to work far harder at his studies. Minoru Muto, a member of the Osaka Lutheran Church, passed a satisfactory

entrance examination, but, because he lacked full Middle School training, was admitted as a Bekka (special) student. He had for some years held a position in a bank. Yoshimasa Takase was formerly a student in our Seminary, but had to discontinue on account of a nervous breakdown. His physical examination this Spring was so satisfactory that it seemed safe to admit him again, but in order to exercise the utmost care in the appropriation of Mission money, the Faculty admitted him on the condition that he pay his own expenses for the first Semester, that we might have a chance to see the reaction on his health of his renewed student life. At present there are nine students in the Seminary, divided into the following classes: two in first and four in second year Preparatory; two in first and one in second year Theological. On the whole this present body of students ranks high in seriousness of purpose, in intellectual ability, in moral character, and in soundness of faith.

Equipment. At last the Seminary is to enter new quarters—a place of its own. While Kumamoto, where we had been so long, was not left behind without a feeling of sadness, the joy of finally getting started in the place where we have long wanted to go has indeed been very great. In October of last year, a fraction over 2,600 tsubo of land was secured near Asagaya, Tokyo-fu, at a cost of Yen 46,000. Since the first of May a Students' Dormitory, with accommodations for thirty-two students, and the Dean's House have been erected on the above land. The Dean's House is a gift of the New York State Luther League. These two buildings, including Dormitory furnishings and other necessary improvements, have cost approximately ¥55,000. The Japanese Churches have given for this purpose about ¥1,000. But there is still a plot of about 370 tsubo jutting into our grounds which the Zaidan decided to buy as soon as the owner is ready to sell, and it seems that he is now on the point of deciding to sell—as it is a bad situation for all parties concerned—not least for him. Here our Seminary is located within easy reach of the centre of Tokyo, in a section which has developed very rapidly since the Great Earthquake and is still booming; so our hearts go out in thanksgiving to the Lord for this new expansion of our Seminary work. The Dedication of the new buildings will take place on the tenth of September, which will be a memorable day in our history. It has taken a very long time, many discussions, much committee work, a series of altered resolutions, times of doubts and questionings, and periods of faith and prayer, but, under God, this undertaking shall become a "high rock" and a "mighty fortress" in our Evangelical Lutheran Church in Japan.

Respectfully submitted,

J. P. Nielsen,

Dean.

RESOLUTION:

As it has been our experience that the present system of supporting Beneficiary Students is open to many criticisms and starts the students out on a bad road in the handling of Mission money, be it resolved that, beginning with January, 1926, student support shall be granted only on the Service Scholarship plan, i.e., only to needy students who are willing to assume certain forms of work outside their regular studies; that work shall in all cases be required for such scholarships; that the Seminary Faculty shall determine the nature and extent of such work; but that only part of a scholarship shall be granted when the Faculty finds that any student is able to partly support himself from other sources.

Be it, further, resolved, that the details connected with these scholarships shall be determined by the Faculty, but that the main points shall be as follows: Service Scholarships for the first year Preparatory shall be ¥30.00 per month; for the second year Preparatory and for the first year Theological shall be each ¥35.00 per month; and for the second and third years Theological they shall be each ¥40.00 per month; that each student shall pay for board, room, light and heat ¥22.00 per month and shall, besides, pay all his own expenses for clothing, books, travel, etc.

Finally, be it resolved, that these Service Scholarships be entered as part of the regular annual Seminary Budget, and that they be administered by the Seminary Faculty.

On behalf of the Seminary Faculty,

J. P. NIELSEN,
Dean.

Voted to receive the report and to turn it over to the Reference Com.

REPORT OF THE JOINT EVANGELISTIC COMMITTEE.

On behalf of the Jt. Evangelistic Committee, Rev. J. K. Linn, gave the following report:

The special evangelistic work for the fall of 1924, in accordance with a desire expressed by an informal conference of the Japanese pastors and evangelists at Arima, was left entirely to the individual stations. The funds available for this purpose were divided on the basis ¥50.00 for each station having a resident pastor or evangelist, on the following conditions: (a) The meetings must be held within the months of October or November. (b) The churches are expected as far as possible to invite speakers from within our own church, and where outsiders are desired, are expected first to secure the approval of this committee. (c) It is urged that these meetings make the direct presentation of Scripture their chief object.

At the request of the Arima Convention, this Committee planned the program and made all arrangements for the joint meeting of the two dis-

trict conferences at Beppu in April of this year. Matters of a business and administrative character were almost wholly eliminated and the time was used for devotional and inspirational meetings, which, from many expressions of opinion heard, proved highly satisfactory and very helpful to those present, especially as they gave an opportunity for missionaries and Japanese pastors and evangelists to come together in more intimate association than is possible during our Annual Conventions. This Committee took advantage of the last night of this conference to hold a special evangelistic prayer meeting at which the concrete plans for the special spring campaign were presented and the hearty co-operation of all was solicited.

The spring evangelistic campaign was planned and carried out as follows:

(1) The objective was the edification and strengthening of the church itself through an educational and inspirational program.

(2) The whole field was divided into smaller groups, and the general plan was to send to each district about three speakers so that each would have a different speaker every day for three days. Of course, there were some exceptions to this rule depending on local conditions.

(3) An attempt was made to present at each place a lecture or sermon on

(a) some phase of the Christian life or practical duties of Christians;

(b) one on Christian worship or the meaning of the sacraments;

(c) an exposition of Scripture.

In some cases other special subjects or evangelistic sermons were substituted.

(4) The meetings were held in our various churches or regular meeting places and the speakers were selected from among our own pastors and missionaries.

As for the results of these special efforts, no attempt was made to tabulate results. However, from a number of communications received, it would seem as though on the whole the results were quite satisfactory, though in some cases special circumstances caused some difficulty in the successful carrying out of the plans. The meetings were comparatively well attended. And although no attempt was made to assemble large crowds of outsiders, many non-Christians were reached with the Gospel message.

Recommendation: Inasmuch as it is very difficult for a new Committee to do satisfactory work immediately after its appointment, we re-

commend that the incoming committee be appointed to serve until the end of 1926 and that thereafter the term of the committee's service be made to coincide with the calendar year.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN K. LINN, *Chairman.*
H. INADOMI, *Secretary.*
J. P. NIELSEN,
R. ISHIMATSU.

Voted to accept this report and turn it over to the Reference Com. Motion to adjourn was made at 5 P.M.

SECOND SESSION, SEPTEMBER 5TH.

Devotional service in charge of Rev. S. O. Thorlaksson opened at 8:45 A.M.

The Business Meeting was called to order by the President at 9:15 A.M.

Minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT. The President read his annual report as follows:

By the grace of our Lord, we have again been permitted to meet in Annual Conference; and as we, at this time, plan for the future, and hope for its revelation of success, it is also well to view the past year that we may remember the blessings which have been ours, and perhaps better know how we might have been more faithful to Him who has called us, and to the work to which He has assigned us.

While sickness has been encountered, we recognize, with gratitude, the merciful hand of our Lord, in that He has defended each from his last enemy—death—and has given restoration to every one of our number who has suffered. Daily has he fulfilled to us His last promise which He made to those He commissioned to go forth. It is fitting that we recognize this with thanksgiving and a renewed consecration and faithfulness.

But while His merciful plans involved preserving us, we were called upon to submit to His calling to Himself, Mrs. Chima Aoyama, wife of Rev. H. Aoyama of Kobe. After forty-eight years of life on earth, and having through a life of faith testified to her Lord's faithfulness and His power to save, on September 20, 1924, soon after our last Convention, after months of severe suffering, she met death, but overcame through Him who has taken from death its sting, and from the grave its victory. While as individuals, we have expressed our sympathy to the bereaved, it would be well for this Convention to so express itself.

Our fellow-worker, Mr. Takami of Tosu has, because of illness, been granted a period of rest from his work. It would be well for us to remember him in prayer, and to send to him an appropriate message.

On Feb. 6, the house of Rev. and Mrs. Knudten, of Nagoya, was destroyed by fire. We deeply sympathize with them in their loss, especially in the loss of those things which can not be replaced; but are very thankful that their lives were spared. With 32 years of history, this was the first such loss in our mission. It would be well for this Convention to consider this loss and decide if help is needed.

On December 5, Rev. and Mrs. Norman and family, and Rev. and Mrs. Thorlaksson and family returned from furlough, and on August 31, on the eve of this Convention, Misses Maude and Annie Powlas returned, and together with them, as new members of our Mission, came Mrs. Mary Linn, Rev. and Mrs. George Sowers, Miss Amy Thoren, and Miss Faith Lippard. These new members we greet and welcome, and assure them of our pleasure in having them with us; and express our hope that they may be content to work with us in fraternal unity, and find joy through service in this part of the Master's field.

Miss Lippard deserves special mention inasmuch as she becomes the first member of our Mission who was born in Japan, and of missionary parents of our own number. For this, we feel very grateful, and doubly welcome her, and hope that her chosen work may be prominently held up before the other children of our Mission, as a laudable precedent. In this, we rejoice with Dr. and Mrs. Lippard.

In March, Miss Potts departed from the field, for furlough.

The personnel of our Mission now numbers 39 on the field and 2 on furlough, or a total of 41. Never in the past have we numbered so many, and those actually on the field will be 40 with the return of Miss Akard, by the end of this month. We are now safely numbered among the larger Missions, and have on the field an unusually high percentage of our staff.

But we deeply regret that our Japanese forces have not increased in like proportion. With two evangelists, Mr. Takase and Mr. Harada, resigning from our work, and but one new worker, Mr. Ouchi—a seminary graduate—having entered it, we note a decrease of one worker during the year.

With 25 missionary units, and 20 Japanese units engaged in evangelistic work, or 23 Japanese including three engaged in seminary work, it would seem that the missionary force and the Japanese force are well matched, as to numbers; but unfortunately out of proportion considering the status that should be. The complaint, however, is in not having enough Japanese workers, and not in having too many missionaries. But the disproportion is not so bad as it seems, if we remember that 12 of our missionary force are engaged either in school work, or in language study. But the urgency to pray the Lord of the harvest that He send more laborers into the harvest, and to endeavor to influence young people

in this behalf, continues upon us. It would be well for us to consider ways by which our entire church might be moved to more fervent intercessary prayer for this purpose.

All about us, the fields are white unto harvest, and the frequency with which we are compelled to pass by rich opportunities has a tendency to make us less thoughtful of what might be done.

This Convention should give diligent attention to providing, if possible, a permanent worker for Minamata, and one for Karatsu; a worker for Chikusa, Nagoya, and one for Honjo, Tokyo, to work in connection with our Home for Widows and Children. Also, a missionary family, and if possible, a single lady, for purely evangelistic work, should be provided for Kumamoto City and Ken, which field ranks first in importance for our church, but which has never been properly supplied since the beginning of our educational work in that City. Unless we enphasize this field, besides losing a large part of the results of our middle and girls' schools, there is a danger of our church being weaker than other denominations, in that district. It is highly necessary, in Kumamoto Prefecture, where our schools are, that the Christian atmosphere be charged with our church's interpretation of Christ's teachings. In this, our desire is not that other denominations do less, but that we do more. It is extremely bad statesmanship to do work for the Kingdom elsewhere, and neglect that field.

Regarding material equipment, we have made considerable progress during the year. In Minamata, a suitable lot and buildings were secured for our station. In Kumamoto, the long-talked-of Girls' School is now being built, and is to be ready for students next April. After 14 years of waiting, the chapel at Kyushu Gakuin is being built. In Shimonoseki, a church building is being erected on the lot secured two years ago. In Kyoto, a lot and two buildings, one of which is used as parsonage, and the other as church, were secured. In Tokyo, a parsonage which is also being used for meetings, was erected on the lot which we secured almost two years ago; and at Osaki (Tokyo), a lot for a church and parsonage was secured. After sixteen years of waiting in hope, our Theological Seminary was given a location in Tokyo Fu, Noogata Machi, and part of the buildings planned have been realized. The school is to open in its new home this month.

Some of our stations are still badly in need of equipment, but could the rate at which equipment has been supplied during the past two years continue during another two year period, our entire field would be well supplied. Since our last Convention, in reply to action taken at that time, the Board has given us permission to apply for equipment for one station, each year. It would be well for us, during this Convention, to formulate our request for 1926.

Within the last two months, our Board has, because of financial embarrassment, asked us to economize to the extent of 10% on the

remaining part of the 1925 budget. Not having been able to execute all our plans for the year it would seem that this could be done without further curtailment of our work. But to be consistent with the Board's desire, we should exercise care in adopting our budget for 1926. With the growth of our work—especially institutional work—from year to year, our budget has also grown. While local support from the Japanese constituency has been increasing, there is considerable room for further development. It would seem that this is an opportune time to ask for a larger local support. The work of our church in Japan has many encouraging features, but there is one feature which is considerably discouraging, viz., that while our church has been working in Japan for more than thirty yeasr, we do not yet have one self-supporting congregation; and still worse, not one which is near self-support. Has the Mission been too ready to help with its funds? Have we and our Japanese Co-workers been inefficient, or insufficiently zealous in gathering in numbers sufficient for self-support? Or, has the influence of Mission subsidy had a stagnating rather than stimulating influence? The matter is serious. It is not a thing that can not be done, for it is done in other missions. It would be well to take this matter up with our Japanese brethren and see where the fault is, and if possible, remove the hindrance.

Also, in connection with Mission economy, it would be well for this Convention to carefully consider the matter of continuing, or discontinuing the custom of semi-annual evangelistic campaigns. Apart from the expense involved, there is ground for questioning the wisdom of this form of work. It would seem that with the discontinuance of this, and with more emphasis laid on special meetings, under local supervision, equal results could be obtained, at less expense, and with more satisfaction to the local stations.

In April of this year, a joint meeting of the Eastern and Western Conferences was held—the first meeting of its kind. Its results have been favorably mentioned. But heretofore, the District Conferences have, on reasonable grounds, been called in question. It would be well for this Convention to apprise conditions and determine if subsequent conferences will likely be held with sufficient profit to justify the time and expense involved.

Three years ago, in connection with our Japanese workers, we began a Workers' Aid Fund from which help could be secured in time of illness. The Fund now amounts to Yen 1,506.18 and is increasing at the rate of Yen 41.42 per month, plus interest on deposits. But up to the present, this Fund has not been available for those in need, because rules governing the Fund have not yet been adopted. It would be well for this Convention to see that such are adopted, so as to preclude further reason for application for help from our general funds.

The matter of beneficiary education, both for young men and for young women, should receive our careful attention. Rules governing both

the obligation such a student assumes toward our church, and a more definite statement of the financial obligation we assume toward such a student, should be made. Our recent disappointments in the field of beneficiary education for young women have been such as to make it urgent to attempt an improvement on our present system.

At our last Convention, it was recommended, in order to economize in clerical work connected with the Mission, that the offices of secretary and treasurer be combined, or one person elected to both offices. The clerical feature necessary to carry on the work of our Mission has become very considerable, and with regular mission duties, it is urgent that we save as much man force as possible. It would be well for us to again consider this matter and see if such economy can not be effected.

Our annual budget begins and ends with the calendar year, but our corps of officers end committees begin and end with our annual Conventions—except the Treasurer. There would be advantage in having officers administer one entire budget, rather than parts of two budgets. In like manner, there are committees whose work would be more of a united plan, if their tenure of office were to coincide with the calendar year, and with the annual budget. It would be well for us to alter our constitution to this effect, and designate the term of office for those elected at this meeting to begin as usual, but continue until the end of 1926, after which those elected at our 1926 Convention shall assume office.

At our last Convention, the matter of rules governing the supply of furniture, etc. for mission homes was discussed. Our present rules are unnecessarily expensive to our Board, leave no room for individual taste, do not take into consideration the fact that needs vary with different houses, are sure to become unsatisfactory to the Mission, and worse than all, are destined to become a challenge for difficulty among ourselves. It would be well for us to reconsider the matter, and if the Mission is already too much involved with the present system to abandon it, it would be well for us to have a dual system and allow those who are to be supplied with property the liberty of choosing either.

We note with satisfaction the issuance from the press of the revised edition of our Church Service and Ministerial Acts. This edition is now available for use in our congregations. It would be well to recognize, with appreciation, this work of our Literature Committee; and it would also be well for us to request the committee, along with its other work, to prepare, or translate, a suitable tract on The Call to the Ministry, another one on the subject of stimulating activity on the part of the laity, and another one on Christian Giving.

New missionaries appointed for Japan often seem to lack the information concerning things to bring with them, the method of transportation, etc., which should have been supplied for the sake of their own comfort, and for the sake of economy to the Board. It would be well for this Convention to designate a committee, or instruct its new Executive Com-

mittee, to draw up suggestions and place them at the disposal of the Board.

We note with much interest the intended visit of Secretary Dr. Drach, to Japan, in the early part of 1926. Dr. Drach will have the distinction of being the first Board representative to visit our field. It would be well for us to express to the Board, our gratification for this visit, our hope for future visits from the Board, and a welcome to Dr. Drach; and to take other such measures as may contribute to the comfort, and usefulness of his visit.

In connection with our relationship with outside bodies, attention must be called to the fact that The National Sunday School Association of Japan, with a view to securing more mission sympathy and co-operation in support and patronage, has requested that we designate a representative to meet with similar representatives from other Missions, and from which certain representatives are to be chosen to meet with the Association's Board of Directors, in their meetings. Until 1922, our Mission gave a nominal financial support to the Association, but discontinued because of the literature produced. Mr. H. E. Coleman who represents the Association has expressed a desire to come before us and present the claims of the Association. It would be well for us to designate a time and invite him to present the matter.

At the recent meeting of the Federation of Christian Missions, the proposed merger between the Christian Literature Society and the Methodist Publication House was effected. While the word "merger" is used, in reality, it means that the Methodist Episcopal Church gives, without condition, to the Christian Literature Society, its entire plant and stock and Yen 50,000.00 in cash, together with its assets, and of course its liabilities, to use in the reconstruction of the Christian Literature Society which lost its building during the disaster two years ago. By the sale of its lot, the Christian Literature Society now has on deposit Yen 150,000 for new property. This together with Yen 50,000, which is to be given with the Methodist Publication House, and Yen 60,000, expected from the American Bible Society, and about Yen 25,000 ($10,000) from the Presbyterian Church North, provides for the greater part of the funds needed to secure the lease on the lot adjoining the Meth. Pub. House lot in the rear, and to erect on these two lots a five story reenforced concrete building which is to provide a home for the Christian Literature Society, including its sales department, in its reconstructed form. Almost half of the building can be rented at an estimated annual income of Yen 32,000 which would provide for the Christian Literature Society an endowment for use in a larger and more useful work. A Zaidan which is to hold the property and control the Society is now being formed. But in executing the project, additional funds to those now in hand will have to be secured, or a debt of perhaps Yen 135,000 will have to be assumed. Our Mission contributes to the work of the Christian

Literature Society Yen 1,400 per annum. No mission contributes more than this in cash, but three missions each contribute a missionary to the staff. We have shown a vital interest in this work, but in securing the original property, which lot was recently sold for more than twice the amount paid for both lot and house, twelve years ago, we contributed but Yen 500 while some missions contributed as much as Yen 20,000. It would be well for us to request our Board to make an appropriation of $10,000 toward the building plans involved in the merger. Such a five story reinforced concrete building covering 134 tsubo, on ground of 169 tsubo, to house the activities of the Christian Literature Society and other Christian causes, on this, one of the most prominent locations, on the most prominent street, of the most prominent city, of this prominent empire, will mean much toward Christianity in the non-Christian world, both at present, and in the future. It will mean all the more to the cause, if the project can be executed without debt.

Recently, Rev. Mr. Minkinen of the Finnish Lutheran Mission, and representing his Mission, approached us on the matter of the production of Lutheran literature, in Japanese. Their purpose is that these two missions co-operate in this work, so that neither may needlessly duplicate what the other does, and also that funds for publication and translation work in both missions may be so co-ordinated that the highest possible service to the cause may be rendered. It would be well for this Convention to take favorable action in regard to this, and instruct its Literature Committee to open conference with the committee of the Finnish Mission, on the subject; and if found practicable to work in co-ordination with the committee of that body.

The National Christian Council, while still in its infancy, and attempting to find itself, is gradually becoming a self-conscious body. It has already accomplished certain tasks, out of proportion to its age, and is now carrying on a nation-wide evangelistic campaign which extends to Japanese in Korea and China. In all likelihood, the Council will develop into a more efficient and useful body. In conformity with our action last year, we should elect a delegate to represent us at the Annual Meeting October 8 - 9.

At the last meeting of the Federation of Christian Mission, it was decided that the Federation, as an organization, be continued; though most of its work is turned over to the National Christian Council, and its constitution is to be somewhat revised to meet the slightly altered purposes of the organization. However, it is to remain a delegated body, and there continues the same occasion for sending delegates from our Mission.

The American-Japanese relationship, is, officially, good, but the memory of the American imigration act of little over a year ago is still fresh in the minds of the people, and the Japanese still feel hurt, and to some degree, this has perhaps had an unfavorable effect on Christian work,

and against the foreigner; but this effect, if existing at all, is so slight that none of us have less to do than before. But the necessity for emphasizing Christianity apart from our country continues. Because of this question, and also because of the increasing self-consciousness of the Japanese church, the missionary's presence in this country is looked upon in a way which challenges his position. The missionary of the near future—even if it can not be said of him at present—will be able to work in Japan, not because he is a missionary commissioned by some Board, but because he is a missionary of superior qualifications and power, and commands a hearing and creates a demand for the message he has to convey.

Though the difficulty of our position has become intensified, there is much for us to do. The present business depression with its resultant unemployment, the more expensive standards of living, the extremely unsettled social relationships and conditions, loss of faith in their old religions, new thought from the Occident, the granting of suffrage to the adult male population, and numerous factors of like nature, have brought the majority of people to a position which calls for help. Their consciousness of need creates our opportunity. But such help must be of such a nature as to obviate all risks of error, and must be given with such discretion as to lay no claim to credit for the benefit bestowed. Service, and service in the humblest sense must characterize our presence, if we are to be wanted by those with whom we work. We have participated in joy in service for Christ, by making His Gospel known. The task has become more difficult, but if our efforts succeed, our joy will be greater, and testimony to Christ's power to save will be strengthened.

A. J. STIREWALT.

Voted to accept the President's Report with a rising vote of thanks, and to give it to the Reference Committee for further action.

Upon motion it was decided to hear Mr. Toyama at 11:30 A.M. Mr. Toyama made a report on behalf of our school at Kumamoto.

Rev. Miyazaki of the National Christian Council was present to give a report concerning the National Evangelistic Campaign and other activities of the Council.

JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT.

It was voted to take up the Joint Executive Committee Report item by item. Each item was approved as follows:

TSUBOIKE HOUSE AT MOJI, SEPT. 12, 1924. Voted to allow Mr. Tsuboike, in consultation with the missionary in charge at Moji, to rent another house for parsonage and church uses in view of the unsatisfactory condition of the mission-owned house.

HARADA SERVANT ALLOWANCE, SEPT. 12, 1924. Voted to allow Yen 20.00 per month for servant in view of his necessities, but to discourage leaving the parsonage as undesirable and detrimental to the work.

S. TAKASHIMA LOAN, OCT. 25, 1924. Voted that Rev. S. Takashima be granted a loan of Yen 700.00 in consideration of accounts to be settled at Nagoya, same to be paid back at the rate of Yen 25.00 per month as from January, 1925, to be increased to Yen 30.00 as from April, 1925 until the amount is returned; it is understood that he leave Nagoya by the end of October.

The following actions dated Dec. 4, 1924 were taken at the Fukuoka Meeting:—

HARADA SAN'S RESIGNATION, DEC. 4, 1924. The Committee discussed the case in detail after which Harada San was given an opportunity to speak for himself. He had not changed his opinion in regard to the Sacraments, he felt them unnecessary, and could not believe that they were enjoined by Christ, he could not administer either, or advise that they should be received, and he expressed the desire to be released from connection with the Lutheran Church. Whereupon the following action was taken:—

Voted to acquiece in his request to be released from the Lutheran Church, and

That severance of his connection with Kurume church take place before the end of 1924, and,

That in consideration of his character and of the reasons of his severance he be granted three months salary beginning January, 1925.

That we express the hope that he will return to the Lutheran Church when he is able to follow its practices and its faith.

LOCATIONS. Harada San's resignation and Miura San's inability to carry on the work at Kumamoto church brought up the matter of locations.

It was voted to locate Shina San at Kurume.

It was voted to permit Ishimatsu San to remain in Kumamoto temporarily, the execution of this action to be deferred until Messrs. Miller and Miura could consult with Messrs. Linn and Horn. Failure to assent would leave the decision of the convention stand.

It was voted to request Mr. Horn to take full charge of the work at Minamata.

OKUMA EXPENSES. Voted to allow him Yen 50 for expenses in connection with the recuperation of his health.

TAKASHIMA PARENTS' ALLOWANCE. Voted to allow ¥35, one month's wages, in appreciation of their past services.

Mrs. Matsumoto Assistance. Voted to allow ¥15 per month in view of her necessities, execution of this action to be deferred until the opinion of Mr. Stirewalt, can be had on certain details.

Christian Council Campaign Request. Voted to consider the request of ¥110 for this campaign made to the churches as the share to be paid by the churches of our Mission.

Osaki Lot. Voted to grant the request of Tokyo station for the use of ¥5,000 for the Osaki lot out of Relief Funds which had previously been allowed as a loan to Tokyo station. (The entire amount is regarded as a loan.)

Moji Church House. Voted to consent to the request of the pastor and missionary to return to the Rogetsucho house, and to ask them to present an estimate of necessary repairs.

Note.—After the convention they had asked to be allowed to rent another house for parsonage and for church purposes. This is unsatisfactory for many reasons, consequently this request.

Miura Ruteru Assistance. Voted to consent to the use of ¥10 per month for help in preparing the Ruteru manuscript, same to be taken out of the budget for publishing the Ruteru.

Horn-Minamata Expenses. (Dec. 28, 1924.) Voted that Mr. Horn be allowed ¥60 per month in providing pastoral supply at Minamata during the time of the absence of a pastor.

Takase Resignation Accepted. (Jan. 30, 1925.) Voted to accept resignation of Mr. Takase, evangelist in charge at Omuta.

Thorlaksson Residence. (Jan. 15, 1925.) Voted that Rev. Thorlaksson be permitted to reside in Fukuoka temporarily on account of difficulties in connection with residence in Kurume.

Mrs. Matsumoto. (Feb. 7, 1925.) Voted to grant Mrs. Matsumoto ¥100 out of sympathy in her illness.

S.S. Committee. (Mar. 28, 1925.) Voted to allow the Sunday School Committee ¥200 for the carrying on of their work in supplies, materials, etc.

Minamata Congregation. (Mar. 28, 1925.) Voted to approve the organization of the Minamata congregation and to recognize it under the constitution of the Lutheran Church.

Meeting at Osaka, Mar. 20, 1925, with all members present took the following actions.

Beneficiary Students. Voted to accept the following students as beneficiary students in the seminary upon recommendation of the seminary, i.e.—

Utsumi Tsuaki San (to be accepted on trial)
Muto Minoru San
Takase Yoshimasa San.

Minamata Supply. Voted to appoint Ouchi Hirosuke to Minamata upon his graduation from the seminary to supply this church until Nenkwai in the fall.

Omuta Supply. Voted to request the Seminary faculty to send suitable students to supply at Omuta during the summer.

Kyushu Exposition Building. Voted to allow up to ¥400 if needed for expenses in connection with a building and the carrying on of evangelistic work at the Kyushu Exposition, March 20 to May 3, same to be drawn from the budget item "New Work."

Yawata Chapel Repairs. (April 3, 1925.) Voted to allow ¥517.80 for Yawata chapel repairs.

Hisako Katsuki. (Mar. 27, 1925.) Voted to accept Hisako Katsuki San as beneficiary student for Kindergarten training. (Miss Hisako Ishiyama's request refused on account of health reasons.)

Takami. (July 11, 1925.) Voted that we approve of the release of Mr. Takami from his work until the Sokwai in Sept., for the purpose of health recuperation.

Watanabe. Voted that Rev. Watanabe be asked to assist Rev. Schillinger, in the work at Tosu until the seminary closes, and then for summer supply with seminary students.

Shiina. (June 29, 1925.) Voted that we recommend Mr. Shiina for examination for ordination to the Holy Ministry at our 6th Annual Convention.

Voted that our 6th Convention be held at Karuizawa on the 4th of September, 1925.

Michi Imai. (July 11, 1925.) Voted that we approve Michi Imai as beneficiary student for training as Kindergarten teacher.

Approval of the following two ad interim actions was deferred to a later session.

Rev. Horn's Release from Chaplaincy. (Mar. 20, 1925.) Voted that the opinion of the Kyushu Gakuin Zaidan be requested in the matter of Mr. Horn's request for release from the office of chaplain, and that

upon ascertaining their opinion we take up the question again for final action.

Rev. Horn's Release. (May 28, 1925.) Voted to release Rev. Horn from his duties in Kyushu Gakuin, and that until the next meeting of our Conference he be recognized as giving his time in behalf of the erection of our Girls' School in Kumamoto. His relation to Minamata will continue without change.

REPORT OF THE LITERATURE COMMITTEE.

The report of the Literature Committee was read by the Chairman, Rev. C. W. Hepner, as follows:

When the results of the work of our Committee were submitted at Arima last year, we were most grateful for the hearty and generous recognition given to the fruits of our labors, both by the Nenkwai and Mission. At that Convention we promised the full rendition of our Common Service Liturgy including all of the Ministerial Acts within the next year. This promise has happily been kept and we are now prepared to present to this Convention the complete Translation into Japanese of the above mentioned Forms and Acts. In addition we have published also a musical setting of the Chief Service. We have done our best to render these forms as faithfully, correctly, simply and grandly as possible into the Japanese tongue, believing that they will be for the edification of our Japanese brethren, and formative in the founding of the Church in this Empire. If the work is worthy, it is because Almighty God has blessed us in the execution. If it is faulty, the defects should be attributed to our frailty. We praise Almighty God for His Guidance, and pray that He may over-rule our failures and manifest His Power and Glory through the Truth contained therein.

This Rendition has been done with great care in the following manner. (a) Individual members of your Committee have made themselves responsible for certain parts. (b) These parts thus translated were mimeographed and distributed to all the members for criticism and correction. (c) Revision was then made of the several parts in open session by the Committee as a whole. (d) These results were again mimeographed. (e) Then a second revision was made. (f) Experts in style and the use of the Chinese characters were constantly consulted. (g) While going through the press great care was exercised to eliminate error.

In this way we have been able to submit to you a work of which neither you nor we need to be ashamed. We do not claim for it perfection, neither do we represent it as errorless, but we are conscious of no fundamental mistake in this rendition.

The music is as yet set to only a part, and we hope that efforts along this line will be repeated by those who may have interest and talent, even though they may not belong to this Committee.

However the Committee seeks your approval of the Music as well as the verbal rendition of the Service.

You may be surprised to know that we have had only two meetings of our Committee during this year, both of these were in Kumamoto.

Five Hundred copies of the Music edition are available. Of the Service Book 2,700 in cloth binding, and 300 in leather binding have been completed. This work has been executed at a total cost of ¥1,918.00.

We have fixed the prices as follows:

(1) Cloth-binding ..... ¥ .50
(2) Stiff Leather 1.50
(3) Limp Leather..... 1.70
(4) Music Edition..... .30

The printing was done in Nagoya, by an earnest Christian, Mr. Kentaro Yokoi.

Our recommendations to you are as follows:

(1) That this book be adopted as the Church Book of the Japan Lutheran Church.

(2) That all former editions of parts thereof be discarded and returned to the Literature Committee for disposition, and that this complete Book be used exclusively.

(3) We request that for the sake of harmony and uniformity that the music edition be used, also, until something more complete and more perfect can be produced.

The organization of the Committee has been as follows: Rev. C. W. Hepner, Chairman. Rev. Hajime Inadomi, Secretary. Rev. E. T. Horn, Treasurer, and Rev. Sadahisa Takashima.

With thanks to God for the abundance of His Grace, we commit the results of our labors to His Service and present to you, His Ambassadors, the Book for which the Japan Lutheran Church has long waited.

C. W. Hepner, Chairman.
S. Takashima.
Edward Horn, Treasurer.
Hajime Inadomi, Secretary.

Voted to accept this report and turn it over to the Reference Committee:

FINANCIAL REPORT—BUNSHOIN.

September 3, 1925.

Contract—300 pages—cloth binding	¥1,000.00
Cross and wood cut	7.00
Paper—increased number of pages (about 50 per volume) and increased printing	180.00
Reprinting and paper matrix	153.00
Binding increase on acct. increased size	208.00
Leather binding—100 @ ¥1.00	100.00
Limp Leather —100 @ ¥1.20	120.00
Music edition 500 copies	150.00
	¥1,918.00

Paid to Yokio Printer

1st payment	¥ 330.00
2nd "	330.00
3rd "	1,246.00
Credited on binding.	12.00
	¥1,918.00

EDWARD T. HORN,

Treasurer of Committee.

Motion to adjourn was made at 12:15 to meet at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

THIRD SESSION. Sept. 5, 1925.

The devotional service was conducted by the Rev. G. W. Schillinger. The Business Session was called to order at 2:15 P.M.

REPORT OF KYUSHU GAKUIN.

The Dean of Kyushu Gakuin, Rev. L. S. G. Miller, D D., read the report of Kyushu Gakuin as follows:

In presenting an annual report to the Mission in regard to the work at Kyushu Gakuin, it is very difficult to know what to say as the routine of the work from year to year is very much the same.

It might be good to begin with an answer to one of the questions of our President, that is in regard to the effect of any anti-American feeling that may have been stirred up by the American Exclusion Act.

To get an answer to this question we must go deep into the feelings of the Japanese. I think we must admit that our teachers felt the thrust very deeply, and regretted the anti-Japanese spirit that seemed to be back of this act of some of our countrymen. No doubt there was some resentment it could hardly have been otherwise. However, I am glad to be able to say that, so far as my observations go, every member of our faculty has acted as a gentlemen, and I have seen nothing to indicate that they held any resentment against any American in Japan, or any antagonism to the work in which we are engaged. This spirit among the teachers has reacted well on the students and as a result the school work has not seemed to suffer at all.

There is an unfavorable tendency which I seem to notice in the student body to a certain extent, but this comes from another cause. However, I may be mistaken in my deductions. I refer to what seems to be a lowering of standards and tendency to crime among young people the world over. We have had it in our country for some time and, if I am not mistaken, it is now entering Japan. Whether this is the explanation, or not, there has developed a small group, four or five, of very unruly students whom it has been necessary to drop from our roll. In order to meet this situation we are trying to work out some method to keep a closer oversight over the students. With this exception the student body has been very responsive and the general work has progressed satisfactorily.

In March of this year we graduated the largest class in our history, ninety-six. In April, there were about 280 applicants for admission to the new class of whom 144 were accepted. The total enrolment at present is 677. The number of applicants for admission this year was not quite so high as for the past few years. This is probably accounted for

by the financial depression and the increasing of the number of Government Middle Schools in our territory.

During the past year our plant has been improved by the addition of several buildings that have been needed for a long time. With the addition of these buildings we hope to be able to do more efficient work.

First in importance is the Brown Memorial Chapel authorized by the Board in July, 1924, at a cost of $35,000.00. It was impossible to begin work on this building until Feb. of this year, but since that time the work has been pushed and should be completed by the last of October. It has been constructed of reinforced concrete with a seating capacity of about 1,000, and seems well built and substantial. We who have had a part in looking after the construction think it is going to make a fine appearance and trust that all the other members of the Mission will be as well pleased.

The other building that gives us much joy to have is the Brotherhood Dormitory, erected as a front to the old dormitory halls by the Lutheran Brotherhood of America at a cost of about $5,500.00. On the ground floor are two large rooms, one a recreation room for all dormitory boys and the other a 44 mat room used as a reading room and dormitory meetings. On the second floor are five dormitory rooms. This building should really be a memorial to Dr. S. S. Waltz of sacred memory, as it was thru his efforts while Executive Secretary of the Brotherhood that the money was secured for its erection.

The usual religious work has been carried on during the past year with encouraging results, but in this branch of the work we have suffered a great loss in the resignation of Rev. Horn as Chaplain. This has necessarily handicapped our work considerably and, as Mr. Horn had been a most efficient Chaplain, it was with sincere regret that the Zaidan accepted the resignation. Mr. Horn has done a fine work at Kyushu Gakuin, a work that will always remain and bear fruit. His resignation represents a real loss.

To fill up the gap and carry on the work to the best advantage, we have organized a religious committee composed of Mr. Toyama, Rev. Inadomi, Rev. Gray, Prof. Saito, Dormitory Master, and myself, to be responsible for the religious work. Rev. Kosaka who is to begin his work with us this month will be a great addition in this department of the work. We, therefore, feel that God has led him into our work at this time to help meet a great need.

In addition to the regular religious work that has been carried on, the religious work in the dormitory has been helped considerably by the addition of the room in the Brotherhood dormitory mentioned above. The regular prayer service held each evening has had an average attendance of about 45 during the past term and the Sunday evening service about seventy-five. Each class is now being given one hour a week of

Bible instruction in the class-room and with the completion of the Chapel we plan to begin a regular morning chapel service.

In these and other ways we are endeavouring to work out plans by which the greatest number may be reached. I am sure that the members of the Mission realize that the responsibility is very great and we assure you that we very badly need your sympathetic cooperation and prayers. We are also glad to have constructive criticism and suggestions in helping to work out the problems before us.

Respectfully submitted,

L. S. G. MILLER.

Voted to adopt this report.

RUTERU FINANCIAL REPORT. The Business Committee reported that the Nenkwai had passed on the financial status of the Ruteru and that ¥563.18 is the amount that would be needed from Mission funds for the next year.

Voted to accept the report as presented by the Business Com.

The 1926 Budget of the "Ruteru" is as follows, reviewed and adopted by both houses:

Income:

Carried forward from 1925	¥ 121.04
Outstanding	46.68
From various congregations	281.60
Mission Subsidy	563.18
	1,012.50

Expenditures:

Printing	¥ 600.00
Editorial Exp.	180.00
Carriage	72.00
Postage	10.00
Special Mss. fees	120.00
Miscellaneous	30.50
	1,012.50

JT. EX. COMMITTEE ACTIONS APPROVED. The Nenkwai has approved the report of the Joint Executive Committee ad-interim actions in full.

HORN RESIGNATION. Voted to take up the matter of Rev. Horn's resignation from the chaplaincy of Kyushu Gakuin at this time.

Voted to ask Mr. Toyama of Kyushu Gakuin to be with us during the discussion of this item inasmuch as the matter of the religious education policy of Kyushu Gakuin is involved in the consideration of the resignation.

At 5 o'clock, the time agreed upon for adjournment, it was voted to extend the time for further discussion of this subject.

Greetings to the Nenkwai. It was voted to ask the Business Committee to convey the greetings of our chamber to the Japanese chamber with thanks for the social time of the previous evening.

Motion to adjourn made at 6 P.M.

Lippard Twenty-fifth Anniversary in Japan. At the close of this session Dr. and Mrs. Lippard were presented with a beautiful silver dish in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of their wedding and of their arrival in Japan. The occasion was made more significant by the presence of Miss Faith, the eldest daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Lippard, who, as the first child of our Mission, has just returned to the work of this field.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

On Sept. 6th, 1925, the following joint services of the Convention were held:

10:00 A.M. Morning Service in charge of Rev. Yonemura.
Sermon—Rev. A. J. Stirewalt.
Ordination Service—Rev. Horn.
Ordination Exhortation—Rev. Takimoto.

Ordination Candidates—Okuma Shiro, Shimonoseki.
Shiina Kiichiro, Kurume.
Tsuboike Takeshi, Moji.

Confession and Absolution—Rev. C. K. Lippard, D.D.
Administration of Communion—Revs. Nielsen and Washiyama.

7:30 P.M. Open Forum on Special Evangelism in charge of Rev. Hajime Inadomi.

FOURTH SESSION, SEPT. 7, 1925.

The devotional service on Monday morning was in charge of Miss Reba Hendrickson.

The business session was called to order at 9:15 A.M. The minutes of the session on Saturday were read and approved.

JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP. The Nenkwai voted that only members of either house who have been members of the Convention for three full years shall be eligible for membership in the Joint Executive Committee.

The Mission approved this action.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS. Voted to elect the officers for the coming year at this time.

The result of the election is as follows:

President—Rev. J. P. Nielsen.
Vice-President—Rev. C. W. Hepner.
Secretary—Rev. E. T. Horn.
Treasurer—Rev. C. K. Lippard, D.D.
Mission Exec. Com. Member—Miss Martha Akard.

SEMINARY REPORT ADOPTED. Voted that the Convention adopt in full the report of the Dean of the Seminary and refer the resolution contained therein to the Japanese Chamber for its approval.

Note.—The resolution referred to deals with the subject of scholarships in the Seminary and the administration of all funds pertaining to same by the Seminary faculty.

This action was subsequently approved by the Nenkwai.

LITERATURE COMMITTEE REPORT ADOPTED. Voted that the Report of the Literature Committee be adopted in full and that the recommendations contained therein be referred to the Japanese Chamber for their approval.

Not.—The resolutions are:

1. That the new Church Book be adopted in all our churches.
2. That former editions be discarded.
3. That the music edition be used.

This action was subsequently approved by the Nenkwai.

Voted that the question of Rev. Horn's resignation be made the first order of business this afternoon.

Statistical Reports. Voted that the incoming Jt. Ex. Com. be asked to give immediate attention to the matter of preparation of uniform statistical forms and church record books for the use of all our churches and stations, and

Voted that hereafter statistical reports be signed by both the pastor or evangelist and the associated missionary.

Jt. Ex. Committee's Recommendations. The Jt. Ex. Com. made the following recommendations which were approved by the Mission and the Nenkwai as follows:

Takami Illness. Voted that Mr. Takami of Tosu be granted release from his duties until December and,

That he be requested to visit a specialist for examination, a member of the Jt. Ex. Com. to make arrangements for same and to report the result to the Jt. Ex. Com.

Ouchi—Minamata. Voted to appoint Mr. Ouchi as evangelist in charge at Minamata.

Ishimatsu—Kumamoto. Voted to reappoint Mr. Ishimatsu as pastor of the Suidocho Church in Kumamoto.

Lay Delegates Expenses. Voted to pay one-half railroad expenses for lay delegates to this Convention for this year only, according to the understanding of the 1924 Convention.

Church Property.—Jt. Ex. Com. Voted to refer the recommendation that the approval of the Jt. Ex. Com. be secured in matters of the purchase of property for churches and parsonages, etc. to the Joint Constitutional Revision Committee.

Nenkwai Elections. The Business Committee reported that the Nenkwai elected the following officers:

President—Rev. K. Takimoto.
Vice-Pres.—Rev. T. Yonemura.
Secretary—Rev. D. Honda.
Treasurer—Rev. H. Aoyama.

The names of those who were elected to other committees of the Nenkwai for convenience are recorded at the end of these minutes.

Ruteru Editors. In regard to the Ruteru Editorial Board the Nenkwai voted that,

1. One member of the Nenkwai and one member of the Mission be elected as Editors-in-chief of the Ruteru.
2. That these two shall appoint three others who must be confirmed by the Nenkwai and the Mission.

3. The five thus selected shall constitute the Board of Editors of the Ruteru.

The Mission approved this action.
The Board for 1926 is,
Editors-in-chief—Messrs. Miura and Hepner.
Assistant Editors—Revs. Inadomi, Okuma and Tsuboike.

Change of Nomenclature. The nomenclature proposed by the Joint Constitutional Revision Committee as follows was adopted by the Nenkwai and the Mission:

1. All ordained members of the Mission and the Nenkwai shall be called "Kyoshi."
2. A kyoshi regularly appointed to and engaged in pastoral work shall be called a "Bokushi."
3. All others shall be called "Dendoshi."
4. The Ministerium shall henceforth be called "Kyoshikwai."

Upon motion the meeting was adjourned at 12 o'clock.

FIFTH SESSION, SEPT. 7TH, 2 P.M.

Rev. L. G. Gray was in charge of the devotional service.
Business Session was called to order at 2:15 P.M.

Horn Resignation Accepted. The first order of business according to action of the morning session was that of Mr. Horn's resignation from the chaplaincy and the acceptance of same as recommended by the Joint Executive Committee.

Voted that we sympathize with Mr. Horn in his ideals for Christian work in Kyushu Gakuin because they are our own as far as desired results are concerned but deem that the attendant circumstances at present prevent the enforcement of his principles in detail and hence endorse the action of the Jt. Ex. Committee.

Report of Nominating Committee. The report of the nominating committee was accepted and the officers elected to the various offices by the Convention are as recorded in the back of the printed minutes.

President's Recommendations. The Reference Committee, on the basis of the President's Report, submitted the following items of business:

Actions were taken as follows:

Resolutions of Sympathy. Resolved, that the Japan Mission express its deep sympathy with Evangelist Takami in his present illness and pray that God will soon restore our brother to health.

Resolved, that the Japan Mission express its sympathy with the Rev. and Mrs. Knudten for the loss of their home by fire during the winter.

Evangelistic Workers. Voted to refer the request for providing suitable workers for Minamata, Karatsu, Chikusa (Nagoya), Honjo (Tokyo) and an evangelistic missionary for Kumamoto field to the Jt. Ex. Committee.

Self Support of Churches. Moved that the question of more financial support from our Japanese churches be referred to the committee on constitutional revision.

Evangelistic Campaigns. Moved that the Committee on New Business bring in resolutions on the matter of Semi-annual Evangelistic Campaigns.

Emergency Aid Fund. Moved that we adopt rules governing the emergency aid fund for pastors and refer this matter to the Japanese Chamber.

Tenure of Office. Moved that the fiscal year mark the limits of the tenure of office in this Convention and that this be referred to the committee on constitutional revision.

New Tracts. Moved that the Literature Committee be requested to edit and publish tracts on the subjects "The Call to the Ministry," "Lay Activity in the Church," "Christian Giving," and various tracts for general and special evangelistic use.

The Nenkwai also approved of this action.

Finnish Mission and Literature. Voted that the matter of co-operation on the part of the Lutheran Finnish Mission in the production of Lutheran Literature be referred to our Jt. Lit. Com. with authority to collaborate whenever deemed desirable or practicable.

JI-AI-EN REPORT.

Report of the Ji-Ai-En. Mrs. J. P. Nielsen, on behalf of the Ji-Ai-En, gave the following report.

The Children's Home.

There are at the present time 13 children in the home, four of whom go to school, and five of whom are babies. During the year three children were admitted. Two small sisters from Shimonoseki were admitted at the death of their parents; also one motherless baby. But after some weeks the two little girls were claimed by their grandmother. The ex-geisha Hanada left with her two children, her purpose being that of establishing a real home for them and have the sole authority over them.

Katayama, a young girl of twenty, was admitted with her illegitimate baby and is now caring for the older children under school age.

Shigaki San was admitted with her two small children while her husband served a prison term for injuring his brother in a drunken quarrel. She was given the care of the old people, caring for the sick, doing the laundry and cleaning for the disabled and blind. She left the institution at the end of August to be, together with her husband, when he shall have been liberated, the cook and caretaker of the seminary. Mrs. Shigaki has asked for this to give her husband a *chance*. She herself wishes to receive baptism, and she has the hope that her husband in new surroundings away from his old associates and under Christian influence may be saved from the drink habit through becoming a Christian.

Eleven children were baptized in the Suido Lutheran Church last Easter Sunday. One baby was left out because his father wishes to receive the child back as soon as he can afford to marry. I explained to him the reason for our not having his little boy baptized, when he came to see the child. He seemed disappointed at having his baby left out, and said he would study and become a Christian himself, and they might be baptized together. That, of course, has not come to pass as yet. I gave him books, —but he lives in another village and cannot rest from his work very often. I mention this to show the attitude of the people with whom we deal.

The state of health among the children has been on the average good. We fought through an epidemic last winter, but all recovered. As yet we have lost no children through death.

The very first baby to come to us, Takumi, started to school last spring. In establishing a seki he became his own master; like Melkizedek of old he has neither father nor mother nor any other earthly connection. The new name in the annals of Japan is Takuma Takumi.

Old People.

Ten old people have been admitted during the year, and eight have died, mostly of old age and weakness brought about by exposure. Each

little room has its garden in front of it, and those gardens are well taken care of. Besides that, the able-bodied old folks, both men and women, work for a while every day on the place, weeding and digging, and keeping things looking orderly and also helping as nurses for the babies.

Religion.

There is a daily devotional period for the old people, and once a week Rev. Ishimatsu speaks to the whole Ji-Ai-En family and visits the invalids who cannot come to the meeting. The old people are particularly fond of hymn singing, although it would rend your ear to listen to their efforts. Many of them cannot read and so they memorize. We make that part of the daily devotion, teaching them hymns. Two old men are getting ready for baptism. Significantly enough, those are the two that can read. They each possess a well thumbed New Testament.

All the workers gather in the morning for a devotional period, and for the older children we have hymn singing and prayers in the evening. While there I had an evening Bible class for the workers and for some outsiders.

We are constantly winning friends among the authorities and among the people. In particular is the city office happy to have a place in which to put their destitute old people. I am quoting part of a letter from Nonaka San.

"I am happy to inform you that everything is getting all right here in Ji-Ai-En. Our morning prayer meeting is being continued very successfully. Yesterday we held the memorial meeting of all those who died in the Ji-Ai-En. All the old men and women and children are quite safe and sound.

We have received the donation of 190 sho of rice from the grain examining office (Kokumotsu Kensasho) in the prefectural office. It is the collection of the little quantity of rice which had been offered to be examined there. They gave it only to us saying that there are some places that will take care of children in this prefecture, but ours is the only one that will care for the helpless old men and women."

This goodwill gives us a great opportunity for mission work. Sunday schools might be established in the neighboring villages, and I believe a good work could be done among the women. I made a point, while living there, of walking out among the people a great deal, getting into friendly relationship with them. They were in every case responsive and friendly.

From the authorities we have received the following information:

¥75,000 has been granted by the Emperor to be distributed for social service work. From one thousand to five thousand yen can be obtained every year for the following purposes:

For undertakings of a lasting nature, such as buildings for expanding the institution, for hospitals or schools, or equipment for same, or for repairs, but not for running expenses nor for endowment funds. Only institutions with a budget exceeding a thousand yen annually can come into consideration.

The following resolutions have been handed in by Miss Powlas:

Since our boards have requested us to begin no new building operations, we would hesitate to present the following resolutions; but in view of the fact that the Girls' Rescue Department of our Colony of Mercy must stand closed until we have a home for our missionaries in charge of that work, be it resolved:

a) That we again call the earnest attention of our Woman's Board to the urgent need of this home.

b) That we request them to pass this appeal on to those churches in North Carolina which have expressed a desire to help build this home.

c) That an estimate of the cost of this building be obtained and sent with this request.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. J. P. NIELSEN.

This report was accepted with a vote of thanks and turned over to the reference committee.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

SIXTH SESSION. Sept. 8, 1925.

The devotional service on Tuesday morning was lead by Rev. J. A. Linn.

The meeting was called to order by the President at 9:20 A.M.

JI-AI-EN. Upon recommendation of the reference committee it was voted to adopt the recommendations of the Ji-Ai-En report.

NOTE.—These recommendations request that we call the earnest attention of our Women's Board to the urgent need of a missionary home in the Ji-Ai-En, and that we ask them to pass this appeal on to the churches in North Carolina which have expressed a desire to help build this home, and that an estimate of costs be sent with this request.

Voted that the Ji-Ai-En apply for aid from the Imperial Fund granted for such purposes.

WOMAN EVANGELIST. Voted that we substitute for the term "Bible Woman" the name "Woman Evangelist," in Japanese "Fujindendoshi."

REPORT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE. The report of the S. S. Committee was read by Rev. D. G. M. Bach, Chairman. It was voted to adopt this report.

Your Sunday School Committee has during the past year endeavored to carry out the following duties:

1) To study the best methods of Sunday School work.

2) To find some way in which the teachers of Sunday Schools, especially the lay members of churches, may get some measure of training for this work.

3) To begin the gathering of a special Sunday School Lending Library, as part of the Dendo Bunko, as an aid to Sunday School Teachers.

With these plans in view we asked and received an appropriation of Yen 30 in December, and Yen 200 for this year, for buying books for the library, for running expenses, and for traveling expenses to special Sunday School meetings.

The Japanese member attended the meeting at Kobe in March, of the Nihon Nichiyogakko Kyokai. It was also our plan that he should go to the Sunday School Convention in Karuizawa, but other duties interfered with this.

Forms have been printed, to be sent out each month to all the Sunday Schools of the Mission, on which the statistics are filled out Sunday by Sunday and returned to the committee at the end of the month.

Books having reference to Sunday School work, and such as may be of help to workers have been bought and placed with the Dendo Bunko. Most of these are in Japanese, but there are some in English. A few have been donated. The titles of these are published from time to time in the Ruteru.

Your committee requests that Yen 300 be granted for next year to carry on the work begun.

Respectfully,

D. G. M. BACH,

Missionary Member.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FACTS JANUARY TO AUGUST, 1925.

	Number of S. S.	Pupils	Baptized Pupils	Teachers	Offerings	Lessons used	Places having Books for Teachers	Places having Books for Pupils	Special Meetings
Tokyo	4	165		12	10.50	Intn'l	x	x	
Toyohashi	1	48		4		Intn'l	x		
Nagoya	3	78		5	6.90	Luth.	x	x	
Kyoto	1	120	2	6	33.20	Intn'l		x	
Shimonoseki	2	90	8	4	22.50	Intn'l			Shuyōkai
Osaka	4	110		6	4.73	Intn'l	x	x	
Kobe	3	150		10	23.82	Intn'l	x	x	
Moji	2	53		4	2.32	Intn'l		x	
Yawata	3	140		4	3.00	Intn'l	x	x	
Naogata	1	65		2	4.04	Intn'l		x	
Kanezaki	1	65		1		Intn'l		x	
Hakata	1	50		10	32.445	Nichiyogk.		x	
Amagi	2	155		4	.76	Intn'l		x	
Kurume	1	40		6	7.84	Intn'l		x	
Hita	3	100		4	8.85	Intn'l		x	
Tosu	1	62		4		Intn'l		x	Rinkangk.
Saga	3	120		5	17.62	Free	(3 days)	x	Kakigakko
Karatsu	2	49		1	9.555	Free	x	x	1 week.
Ogi	1	110		2	6.00	Intn'l	x		
Omuta	2	110		2	10.60	Intn'l	x		
Kumamoto	2	150	5	13	27.80	Intn'l	x		
Ky. Gakuin	1	48		4	5.00	Free	x		
Minamata	2	62		8		Nichiyogk.	x	x	
Totals	45	2,150	15	121	237.46				

Number of pupils about 1000 less than reported last Convention. Woman's work not reported.

Note that most of the stations are using the International S.S. Lessons. A few are using the Nichiyogakukyokai, some are using free lessons, and one place is using the Lutheran lessons.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF S.S. COMMITTEE.

Appropriated for S.S. Committee work		230.00
Expenses (Traveling and other ex.) to Kobe Meeting	53.15	
Printing and Correspondence	13.46	
Books for Library and Reference	75.60	
Balance		87.79
	¥142.21	¥142.21

D. G. M. BACH.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE COLONY OF MERCY.

Financial Report of the Ji-Ai-En. Rev. J. P. Nielsen gave the financial report of the Ji-Ai-En which was accepted as read.

October, 1924 to September, 1925.

RECEIPTS:

Cash balance on hand October, 1924	¥ 8,353.63
Receipts from Mission Treasurer	6,950.00
Special gifts	277.33
Gifts by Japanese Churches and S.S.	226.94
Bank interest	240.15
Various small receipts	147.33
Total	¥16,194.37

DISBURSEMENTS:

General running expenses	¥ 4,281.17
Salaries of Nonaka and Hatanaka	906.00
Repairs to and extension of buildings	4,130.00
Fencing entire grounds	4,250.00
Taxes	92.84
Insurance	49.31
Christmas expenses	26.30
Various incidental expenses	178.81
Total	¥13,914.43

J. P. NIELSEN,
Acting Treasurer.

At this point Mr. Coleman, representing the National Sunday School Association, spoke on the work of the Association and exhibited literature.

Motion to adjourn was made at 12 o'clock.

SEVENTH SESSION, SEPT. 8, 1925, 2 P.M.

Rev. C. E. Norman led the devotional service.

Evangelistic Library. Voted that the matter of incorporating the evangelistic library (Dendo Bunko) in the seminary library be referred to the Jt. Ex. Committee.

Shimonoseki Church Furnishings. Voted that the sum of Yen 500.00, if available, be added to the Shimonoseki Church Budget for 1925

for church furnishings. (A similar amount is being raised by the congregation.)

SEMINARY NAME. Moved that the English and Japanese names of the Seminary in Tokyo be designated, respectively, The Japan Lutheran Theological Seminary and Nihon Ruteru Shingaku Semmon Gakko.

SEMINARY—K. G. ZAIDAN. Voted that the Seminary remain under the Kyushu Gakuin Zaidan Hojin; that the Zaidan's constitution be changed so as to meet the new situation created by the removal of the Seminary from Kumamoto to Tokyo; that the head of the Seminary be called President and that he be ex-officio a member of the Zaidan.

The Business Committee reported from the Nenkwai as follows:

RUTERU AUDIT. The Nenkwai approved the Ruteru Budget and stated that the accounts have been audited.

RUTERU ASSISTANT EDITORS. The Nenkwai approved the following three Assistant Editors of the Ruteru: Revs. Inadomi, Okuma and Tsuboike. The Mission approved this action.

EVANGELISTIC COMMITTEE TENURE OF OFFICE. The Nenkwai approved the Jt. Ev. Com. recommendation that the members of the Evangelistic Committee take up their duties as from January 1st of the following year instead of at the close of the Convention.

Voted that the Mission approve of same.

PENSIONS FOR WORKERS. The Nenkwai voted to instruct the Joint Constitution Revision Committee to study the question and to submit rules for the granting of pensions to retired workers and to other workers temporarily incapacitated for work, together with aid for bereaved families of workers.

The Mission approved same.

LAY DELEGATES—EXPENSES. The Nenkwai recommended the following amendment to article 85 of the Nenkwai Constitution Add the proviso: That delegates from churches having the status of full members of the Nenkwai shall be dealt with as to expenses in the same manner as pastors and evangelists.

The Mission voted that this matter be referred to the Constitution Revision Committee.

JOINT DISTRICT CONFERENCE. The Mission and the Nenkwai voted that:

1. The meetings of the Eastern and the Western Conferences be held in the spring of 1926 at the same time and place.
2. That a joint Shuyokwai (Inspirational Conference) shall be held at the same time and place.

3. That the officers of both conferences and the members of the Joint Evangelistic Committee shall determine the place and time and shall draw up the program.
4. That the execution of the program shall be in charge of the Joint Evangelistic Committee.
5. That the proposed meeting shall be held if possible in connection with the proposed visit of Dr. Drach.

Time of Annual Convention. The Nenkwai voted that whereas, Men who are connected with educational work, by absenting themselves from school at the beginning of a term, affect the morals and work of the school, we express to the Joint Executive Committee our hope that so far as possible they would try to avoid setting the date of the Convention at a time that conflicts with the beginning of a new term.

The Mission approved this action.

The Nenkwai unanimously approved of Arima as the place of the next Annual Convention.

The Mission voted that this matter be referred to the Jt. Ex. Committee.

Dr. and Mrs. Lippard Appreciation. The Nenkwai unanimously adopted the following expression of appreciation in Japanese and requested that the following translation be spread on the Minutes of the Mission.

The Mission approved this action with gratitude.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE NENKWAI ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF DR. AND MRS. LIPPARD.

Since Dr. and Mrs. C. K. Lippard stepped upon the shore of our country as missionaries for the first time, in the year 1900, full 25 years have elapsed. During these long years they have been planning and laboring faithfully and patiently, devoting their best efforts to the furtherance of God's cause. When we remember that it was only thirty-three years ago that our Lutheran work was begun in Japan, their coming was just in the primitive stage of our Church's beginnings. At that time our new civilization was just in its infancy. Spiritually, our people were slow to understand the religious message of the West; anti-foreign spirit still remained; few modern comforts could be had; there were many deprivations and difficulties. Enduring courageously all these inconveniences and all the religious persecutions, Dr. and Mrs. Lippard worked their way into this thorny ground, and prepared the field for the planting of the Word of God.

During the spectacular changes that our country has been witnessing they have been faithfully unceasingly lifting up the Cross of Christ and

preaching the unchanging Gospel. Through their influence, under God's guidance, many a man has entered into the Salvation that is in Christ Jesus. Some of them have become able Christians, the cornerstones and pillars of the Church: some have dedicated their lives to the Gospel Ministry as good soldiers of the Cross. The history of the development of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church is indeed directly and inseparably connected with their personal lives. In the past there have been not a few missionaries, whom we came to respect, who labored with great ability, and who accomplished no inconsiderable labors, whose influence was just beginning to be deeply felt, whose virtues had begun to make an impression upon the people among whom they lived, and who were just within grasp of great success as missionaries—when, suddenly, they returned home. To us, their Lutheran co-workers, this has been the source of the greatest regret.

But, on the contrary, here are our Dr. and Mrs. Lippard, staying in Japan a quarter of a century, laboring for 25 years, whose labors are now bearing abundant fruit, and the fruits of whose labors are now beginning to ripen. Dr. and Mrs. Lippard are the Dr. and Mrs. Lippard of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church, constant as Mt. Fuji, with its silvery head gleaming majestically. Dr. Lippard is an unceasing witness to the eternal Gospel of the Cross. We are profoundly moved as we celebrate the silver anniversary of his missionary services. Though advancing in age, yet with the passion of an old apostle, he is making ever renewed efforts for the Kingdom of God.

At a time when we are trying to make a forward step towards the self support and independence of our Church, we heartily hope that Dr. and Mrs. Lippard will stay and labor until the last in this land of ours, where the cherry-blossoms bloom and the golden sheaves of rice are ready to the harvest. We trust that they will lend their influence to the cultivation of the spiritual life within the Church and the evangelization of the Nation without. With the heartiest earnestness and sincerity we pray God's choicest blessings upon them and their Family.

In behalf of the Japanese Nenkwai,

KOKICHIRO TAKIMOTO, Chairman.

Karuizawa, Sept. 8th, 1925.

Mrs. Matsumoto Allowance. The Jt. Executive Committee's recommendation that Yen 10 per month be paid Mrs. Matsumoto temporarily, was amended to read "Voted that Mrs. Matsumoto be granted Yen 50.00 without regard to monthly payments." The Nenkwai disapproved of this action and presented the following motion:

Voted that we grant Mrs. Matsumoto the sum of Yen 10 per month for one year during which time the Joint Executive Committee shall draw

up rules governing similar cases and submit same to the next annual convention for approval.

The Mission approved this action.

The time for adjournment having come, it was voted to extend the time of the session until 5 o'clock.

It was voted to ask the Nenkwai to remain in session until our session was ended.

Church Self Support. In regard to the Mission's recommendation concerning greater financial support on the part of the churches the Nenkwai stated that self support is largely a matter of education in the churches.

The Mission re-affirmed its original action and the Nenkwai approved that a regular system by which the churches may work towards greater self support be considered by the Joint Constitution Revision Committee.

The Mission and the Nenkwai voted to ask the Joint Evangelistic Committee to take up the matter of educating the churches towards self support and of fostering a spirit of congregational responsibility for self support.

At this point Mr. Inadomi presented the unanimous decision of the Nenkwai asking Rev. Horn to remain in Kumamoto as the evangelistic missionary.

Locations. The Nenkwai and the Mission agreed upon the question of locations as follows:

Voted that Miss Maude Powlas be appointed to continue her work in the Ji-Ai-En in Kumamoto.

Voted that Miss Anne Powlas be appointed to continue her work as kindergarten worker in the Saga field.

Voted that Rev. E. T. Horn be located in Kumamoto to take charge of the evangelistic work in Kumamoto Ken.

Thorlaksson Residence. Voted that Rev. Thorlaksson be asked to go to Kurume as soon as he can find a house, inasmuch as the situation has clarified sufficiently for him to do so.

It was voted to continue the session until the Joint Executive Com.'s Report on locations be completed.

Wasa Location. The Joint Executive Committee continued its recommendations on locations. It was voted that Mr. Wasa be reinstated into the active pastorate and that he be appointed to the work at Ogi and Karatsu with residence at Karatsu.

At 5:30 P.M. it was moved that we adjourn to meet again at 8 P.M.

EIGHTH SESSION. Sept. 8, 1925.

Devotional Service on Tuesday night was lead by Rev. F. W. Heins. Business session was called to order at 8:15 P.M.

NAKASHIMA HIDETSUMU. The Mission and the Nenkwai voted that Mr. Nakashima Hidetsumu be asked to help in the Honjo Lutheran social work for the present at the same time taking some courses of study in the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Tokyo pending further consideration and action in regard to sending him to America for further study.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S EXPENSES. The Nenkwai and the Mission approved the appropriation of Yen 300 for the expenses of the Joint S.S. Com.

TOSU VACANCY. Voted that during the illness of Mr. Takami, the matter of securing supplies for Tosu be intrusted to Mr. Schillinger with the aid of Mr. Watanabe, it being understood that they are free to call on other workers in central Kyushu for assistance as the need may require.

Approved by the Nenkwai and Mission.

EVANGELISTIC BUDGET. The Evangelistic Budget for 1926 as finally submitted by the Finance Committee was approved by Nenkwai and Mission, in the total amount of Yen. 68,225.00.

INFORMATION. Rev. G. Kosaka was accepted as Associate Member of the Nenkwai.

OMUTA SUPPLIES. The Mission voted that we ask Mr. Kosaka to help in the work at Omuta temporarily.

The Nenkwai and the Mission passed the following action: Voted that, inasmuch as there is no pastor available for Omuta, Mr. Horn be made responsible for supplies for the Omuta church with the understanding that a resident pastor will be placed in Omuta as soon as possible.

JT. EX. COM.'S APPROVAL ON PROPERTY MATTERS. The Nenkwai indorsed the recommendation of the Jt. Ex. Com. that the approval of the Jt. Ex. Com. be secured in matters relating to the purchase of property for churches and parsonages.

The Mission moved that this matter be tabled.

1925 EXPENSES OF THE NENKWAI. The Nenkwai reported that their expenses for the 1925 convention amounted to ¥1,053.52. This budget was adopted by the Nenkwai and the Mission, the Mission agreeing to grant the sum of ¥690 towards this expense.

EMERGENCY AID FUND FOR PASTORS. The proposed rules for governing the pastors' aid fund were adopted by the Nenkwai and by the Mission, in the following form:

PASTORS' EMERGENCY AID FUND RULES.

Art. 1. Name. This fund shall be called the Emergency Fund for Workers in the Lutheran Church.

Art. 2. A. Purpose. The purpose of this fund and the association is to assist financially any member or any member of his family who has been dependent on him for some time who may incur unusual expenses because of illness or calamity.
B. Membership. All regular pastors and evangelists in the Lutheran Church in Japan shall be members of the association which creates and administers this fund.
C. But any member who because of age or any other reason is honorably retired from the work for the time being or permanently by the church and who according to the rules governing this fund, continues to contribute to the fund, shall continue to be eligible to its benefits.

Art. 3. Payments to Fund.
A. Each regular member shall pay in one per cent of his salary (including allowances for children.)
B. Other members mentioned in article 2 clause 3 shall pay into this association one per cent of the sum he receives monthly.
C. The Mission agrees to pay an amount equal to that paid by the members of the association.
D. Any special gifts or endowments to the fund.

Art. 4. This fund is to be kept in the hands of the Mission Treasurer.

Art. 5. The amounts stated in article 3 shall be paid in every month by the members and the Mission.

Art. 6. This fund cannot be used for any other purposes except those stated in article 2 and by no means shall any money be refunded to any member who has contributed to this fund.

Art. 7. This fund shall be administered by the Jt. Ex. Com. of our church.

Art. 8. Method of Receiving Benefits. When a benefit is desired, the member desiring it and the associated missionary or the associated Japanese minister, shall make written request to the Chairman of the Jt. Ex. Com. showing reasons for same; whereupon the Chairman shall consult the Committee and consider each case upon its own merits. It shall determine whether a benefit or a loan is to be granted and the amount thereof and shall notify the member who has made this request. If the party concerned agrees to the decision of the committee, the Chairman shall authorize the Treasurer to pay the amount determined by the Committee.

In case a member has been granted a loan, he shall pay back the amount agreed upon by him and the committee in monthly payments.

Art. 9. The Chairman shall submit a report of all business transacted since the last convention to both chambers at each annual convention for approval.

Art. 10. The Secretary shall keep all the necessary records and books and shall make a report to the annual convention of all income and disbursements made during the year with the signature of the Chairman.

Art. 11. These rules cannot be revised or amended without the approval of a three-fourth vote of each chamber of the convention of our church.

NOTE.—It is understood that the Japanese text of these rules is the official one.

MISSION RELATION TO FUND. Both the Nenkwai and the Mission adopted the following provision:

1. That the Mission agrees to pay into the fund a sum sufficient to raise the amount of the fund to ¥3,000 at the same time continuing to pay into the fund as at present with the understanding that the Mission reserves the right to discontinue contributions to the fund at any time upon one year's notification.

2. That upon the fund's reaching the amount of ¥3,000 the rules adopted shall be put into operation.

Motion to adjourn was made at 1:50 A.M.

JOINT CLOSING SERVICE.

At this time the members of the Nenkwai came to the Junior Building for the Joint Closing Service of the Convention.

Under the leadership of Rev. C. W. Hepner the Convention joined in song and in prayer which concluded the Sixth Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Japan.

MEETING OF THE JOINT MINISTERIUM.

The Joint Ministerium met on the evening of September 5th, 1925, 8 P.M. at the Junior Building, Karuizawa.

The meeting opened with the singing of a hymn and was lead in prayer by Rev. T. Yonemura.

Roll Call. The following members responded to roll call:

Rev. C. K. Lippard, D.D.,
Rev. L. S. G. Miller, D.D.,
Rev. J. P. Nielsen,
Rev. E. T. Horn,
Rev. C. W. Hepner,
Rev. J. K. Linn,
Rev. D. G. M. Bach,
Rev. S. O. Thorlaksson,
Rev. C. E. Norman,
Rev. G. W. Schillinger,
Rev. A. C. Knudten,
Rev. L. G. Gray,
Rev. J. A. Linn,
Rev. K. Takimoto,
Rev. T. Yonemura,
Rev. H. Aoyama,
Rev. N. Washiyama,
Rev. I. Miura,
Rev. T. Kawase,
Rev. H. Inadomi,
Rev. A. Muto,
Rev. K. Watanabe,
Rev. S. Takashima,
Rev. D. Honda,
Rev. R. Ishimatsu,
Rev. T. Chiga,
Rev. T. Wasa.

Absent: Rev. A. J. Stirewalt and Rev. F. W. Heins.

New Member: The Rev. G. M. Sowers was introduced and received as a new member in the Ministerium.

The minutes of the session of last year were read by Rev. D. Honda.

The report of the Constitution Revision Committee concerning the term "Kyoshi,', "Bokushi", "Dendoshi" and "Kyoshikwai" was received.

(See regular Convention Minutes for information.)

The report of Rev. Takimoto on behalf of the Jt. Ex. Com. concerning the resignations of Messrs. Harada and Takase and the reasons for same was heard. This was followed by an informal exchange of opinion.

The report of Rev. Takimoto for the Jt. Examination Committee stated that Okuma Shiro, Shiina Kiichiro, and Tsuboike Takeshi, had passed the necessary examinations as conducted by the Examination Com.

The three candidates for ordination were voted upon by ballot and accepted for ordination. At the Joint Convention Service on Sunday morning these three men were ordained to the holy ministry.

Kosaka Membership Transfer. It was reported that the necessary transfer papers had been received from the Methodist Church permitting the transfer of membership of Rev. K. Kosaka to the Lutheran Church.

The Joint Executive Committee, having previously examined him, as to his faith and to his intentions, it was voted that Rev. K. Kosaka be received into the Ministerium as a full member, recognizing his ordination, but for the present he shall not have the right to vote inasmuch as he is not amendable to the Nenkwai.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS. Those voted to be received into the Ministerium were called in. Rev. Yonemura welcomed the three candidates for ordination and Rev. Nielsen welcomed Rev. Kosaka on behalf of the Ministerium.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS. The results of the election were as follows:
President—Rev. T. Yonemura.

Examining Committee—Rev. C. W. Hepner, Rev. J. P. Nielsen, Rev. T. Chiga and Rev. I. Miura.

EXAMINATION GRADE. It was voted that the passing grade for ordination examinations be raised from 60 to 70 inasmuch as this is the grade adopted in the Seminary.

The meeting closed with hymn and prayer.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES FOR 1926.

OFFICERS.

MISSION.	NENKWAI.
Pres. Rev. J. P. Nielsen	Rev. K. Takimoto
V. Pres. Rev. C. W. Hepner	Rev. T. Yonemura
Sec. Rev. E. T. Horn	Rev. D. Honda
Treas. Rev. C. K. Lippard, D.D.	Rev. H. Aoyama

JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Rev. J. P. Nielsen	Rev. K. Takimoto
Rev. C. W. Hepner	Rev. T. Chiga
Rev. E. T. Horn	Rev. I. Miura

JOINT EVANGELISTIC COMMITTEE.

Rev. C. E. Norman	Rev. H. Inadomi
Rev. D. G. M. Bach	Rev. D. Honda

JOINT LITERATURE COMMITTEE.

Rev. C. W. Hepner	Rev. H. Inadomi
Rev. E. T. Horn	Rev. Okuma

JOINT CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE.

Rev. A. J. Stirewalt	Rev. I. Miura
Rev. C. W. Hepner	Rev. T. Chiga
Rev. J. P. Nielsen	Rev. R. Ishimatsu

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Rev. D. G. M. Bach
Rev. T. Tsuboike

RUTERU BOARD OF EDITORS.

Rev. C. W. Hepner
Rev. I. Miura

STATISTICIAN.

Rev. J. A. Linn
Mr. Iwanaga

ORDINATION EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

Rev. J. P. Nielsen
Rev. C. W. Hepner
Rev. T. Chiga
Rev. I. Miura

DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL.

Rev. J. P. Nielsen

MISSION FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Rev. C. W. Hepner
Rev. C. K. Lippard, D.D.
Rev. L. S. G. Miller, D.D.

COLONY OF MERCY COMMITTEE.

Miss M. Powlas
Rev. L. S. G. Miller, D.D.
Rev. E. T. Horn
Mrs. J. P. Nielsen
Mrs. C. E. Norman.

WOMEN'S WORK COMMITTEE.

Rev. J. P. Nielsen, ex-officio
Miss M. Akard
Miss H. Shirk
Miss A. Powlas

MEMBER JT. COM. ON HIGHER EDUC. IN KYUSHU.

Rev. L. S. G. Miller, D.D.

DELEGATES TO FEDERATED MISSIONS.

PRINCIPALS.	ALTERNATES.
Rev. L. S. G. Miller, D.D.	Rev. E. T. Horn
Miss A. Powlas	Miss M. Akard
Rev. D. G. M. Bach	Rev. A. C. Knudten
Rev. S. O. Thorlaksson	Rev. J. A. Linn

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